

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0075] with the following amended paragraph:

[0075] FIG. 14 shows a container 600 with partitions 605, 610, and 615 which separate the container into compartments 620, 625, 630, and 635. Compartments 620, 625, 630, and 635 are in fluid communication through the ports 640, 645, 650, and 655. Preferably, the ports 640, 640 645, 650, and 655 have gas or vapor permeable and microorganism impermeable barrier. Compartments 620, 625, 630, and 635 contain an indicator 660, fan 665, antimicrobial source 670, and devices 675 and 680 to be processed, respectively. The compartments 620, 625, 630, and 635 can share a common lid or each one can have its own lid. The fan 665 circulates the antimicrobial agent from the antimicrobial source 670 through the devices 675 and 680, and then to the indicator 660. Unlike the container 500 of FIG. 13, the antimicrobial agent in the container 600 can be re-circulated and re-used. The container further comprises a heater 685 to help the circulation of the heated air in the container 600. The heated air can enhance the efficacy and the release of the antimicrobial agent from the antimicrobial source 670. More than one fan can be used to facilitate the circulation of the antimicrobial agent in the container 600, and to help the uniform distribution of the antimicrobial agent over the devices 675 and 680 in the compartment 635.

Please replace paragraph [0077] with the following amended paragraph:

[0077] FIG. 15A shows a sterilization system 1600 having an attachable/detachable container 1602 for holding instruments 1604 to be sterilized. It comprises a series of baffles 1606

to form an extended flow path 1608, beginning at an inlet port 1610 and ending at an outlet port 1612. Each of the inlet and outlet ports 1610 and 1612 are covered by a vapor permeable, microorganism impermeable barrier 1614, such as spun-bond ~~polyethylene~~polyethylene (e.g. TyvekTM) or other materials as may be known or become known which have a pore size sufficiently small to prevent ingress of bacteria, viruses, prions and other contaminating microorganisms yet large enough to pass vapor phase sterilant gases. A sterilant source system 1616 comprises an enclosure housing a sterilant source 1618 and a circulation assist, such as a fan 1620 and having an outlet port 1622 and inlet port 1624. The system inlet port 1624 mates with the container outlet port 1612 and the system outlet port 1622 mates with the container inlet port 1610 as in the previous embodiment. The ports need not lie flush on the container 1602 or sterilant source system 1616 as shown, but rather could be connected through a conduit or tubing or the like. An indicator 1626 can be provided, as well as dividers to create compartments 1628, 1630 and 1632 as in the previous embodiment.